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McCarthy-Scott Report

## White House Maneuvers

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WASHINGTON — A three-way power struggle is raging within the White House staff over personnel appointments and domestic policy recommendations.

This politically explosive dispute, which only President Johnson can decide, is coming to a head over the proposed appointment of Wilson D. McCarthy, congressional relations officer of the Peace Corps, to the White House staff.

The 34-year-old McCarthy, known as a "Bobby Kennedy man" within administration circles, is being strongly pushed for the White House post by presidential aides Bill Moyer, former deputy director of the Peace Corps, and J. J. Valenti, special consultant to the President.

These two presidential advisers are stressing that McCarthy is needed in the White House to improve the administration's liaison with Congress to pass the controversial medicare and anti-poverty programs.

A close friend of Moyers when both worked in the Peace Corps, McCarthy is being urged by the former as the one person who could serve as a communication link between President Johnson and Attorney General Robert Kennedy.

Opposing McCarthy's selection are veteran Johnson aides Walter Jenkins, special presidential assistant, and Clifton Carter, the White House's top political adviser.

They frankly argue that McCarthy, a pre-convention supporter of the late President Kennedy, is a "Kennedy rather than a Johnson man," and that his political loyalties in any showdown with Attorney General Robert Kennedy would not be to the President, but to Kennedy.

Until the Attorney General spells out more clearly his future political intentions, neither Carter nor Jenkins feels the President should strengthen the Kennedy influence within the inner White House circle by adding McCarthy to the staff.

The third group of White House aides, known as the "Kennedy holdovers" and headed by special presidential assistant Kenneth O'Donnell, is supporting McCarthy's appointment but staying in the background in the struggle between the two Johnson groups.

The "Kennedy holdovers" who supported the late President in his 1960 bid for the Democratic nomination, include Lawrence O'Brien, special legislative assistant to the president; Myer Feldman, special counsel; Lee C. White, deputy special counsel; and McGeorge Bundy, special assistant on security affairs.

This group, which welcomes McCarthy as one of their own, is encouraging his appointment by playing up his work with Congress while in the Peace Corps and his close association with Peace Corp Director Sargent Shriver, Jr., now coordinator of the President's anti-poverty program.

In their backstage discussions, the "Kennedy holdovers" are privately telling supporters in Congress that McCarthy's selection will strengthen their hand in influencing Johnson to increase his \$300 million request for funds to launch the anti-poverty program.

The two Johnson groups, although sharply split over McCarthy, are firmly united in limiting this new domestic venture to "pilot projects" until a determination can be made as to which approach should be used in allocating federal funds.

White House insiders say the President is delaying his decision until he can personally determine whether Attorney General Kennedy has any unannounced political plans for 1964.

A major effort is being made by a group of State Department and Central Intelligence Agency authorities to whitewash, cover up and ridicule the disclosures made by Polish defector Colonel Michael Goleniewski, since they involve treason in both agencies. It is a well-organized campaign, with CIA officials making personal contact with members of Congress and newsmen, and telling them Goleniewski is under heavy nervous tension. Representative Michael Feighan, D-O., one of the few members of Congress who have talked to Goleniewski, reports that the Polish defector is in good health and mind, although worried that the Russians may try to kill him. A high-ranking KGB intelligence officer in Poland, Goleniewski has a "thank-you" note from former CIA Director Allen Dulles, who used considerable information supplied by the defector in his book "The Craft of Intelligence."